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(b) *Application.* Applications for the purchase of Retirement Plan Bonds should be made on Form PD 3550, accompanied by a remittance to cover the purchase price. Personal checks will be accepted, subject to collection. Checks or other forms of exchange, should be drawn to the Federal Reserve Bank or United States Treasury, as the case may be. Checks payable by endorsement are not acceptable.

(c) *Delivery.* Delivery of bonds will be made in person, or by mail at the risk and expense of the United States, at the address given by the purchaser, but only within the United States, its territories and possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Canal Zone. No mail deliveries elsewhere will be made. If the registered owner temporarily resides abroad, the bonds will be delivered to such address in the United States as the purchaser directs.

§ 341.4 Proof of purchase.

At the time a Retirement Plan Bond is issued, the issuing agent will furnish therewith to the purchaser, and in cases where the purchaser is different from the person in whose name the bond is inscribed, to the registered owner as well, proof of the purchase on Form PD 3550. The form will show the names and addresses of the purchaser and of the registered owner, the latter's date of birth, social security account number and his classification (i.e., self-employed individual or employee) the number of bonds issued, a description thereof by issue date, serial numbers, denominations, and registration, together with information as to the amount of his contributions (if any) toward the purchase price of the bonds.

§ 341.5 Limitation on holdings.

The limit on the amount of any Retirement Plan Bonds issued during 1974, or in any one calendar year thereafter, that may be purchased in the name of any one person as registered owner is \$10,000 (face value).

[39 FR 36114, Oct. 8, 1974]

§ 341.6 Nontransferability.

United States Retirement Plan Bonds are not transferable, and may

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not be sold, discounted or pledged as collateral for a loan or as security for the performance of an obligation, or for any other purpose.

§ 341.7 Judicial proceedings.

No judicial determinations will be recognized which would give effect to an attempted voluntary transfer *inter vivos* of a Retirement Plan Bond. Otherwise, a claim against a registered owner will be recognized when established by valid judicial proceedings, but in no case will payment be made to the purchaser at a sale under a levy or to the officer authorized to levy upon the property of the owner under appropriate process to satisfy a money judgement unless or until the bond has become eligible for redemption pursuant to the regulations in this part. Neither the Treasury Department nor any of its agencies will accept notices of adverse claims or of pending judicial proceedings or undertake to protect the interests of litigants who do not have possession of the bond.

§ 341.8 Payment or redemption during lifetime of owner.

(a) *At age 59½ or thereafter.* A Retirement Plan Bond will be redeemable at its current redemption value upon the request of the registered owner (or a person recognized as entitled to act on his behalf), provided he is 59½ years of age or older. The owner's age will be determined from the date of birth shown on the face of the bond, provided, however, that the Secretary of the Treasury reserves the right in any case or class of cases to require proof, in the form of a duly certified copy of his birth certificate, that the owner has attained the age of 59½ years. If such evidence is unavailable, one of the following documents may be furnished in lieu thereof:

- (1) Church records of birth or baptism.
- (2) Hospital birth record or certificate.
- (3) Physician's or midwife's birth record.
- (4) Certification of Bible or other family record.
- (5) Military, naturalization or immigration records.

(6) Other evidence of probative value. Similar documentary evidence will also be required to support any claim made by an owner that the date of birth shown on his bond is incorrect.

(b) *Prior to age 59½ years.* A Retirement Plan Bond will be paid at its then current redemption value upon a registered owner's request (or by a person recognized as entitled to act on his behalf) prior to his attainment of age 59½ years upon submission of a physician's statement or any similar evidence showing that the owner has become disabled to such an extent that he is unable to engage in any substantial, gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or to be of long-continued and indefinite duration. The following are examples of impairments which would ordinarily be considered as preventing substantial, gainful activity:

- (1) Loss of use of two limbs.
- (2) Certain progressive diseases which have resulted in the physical loss or atrophy of a limb, such as diabetes, multiple sclerosis, or Buerger's disease.
- (3) Diseases of the heart, lungs, or blood vessels which have resulted in major loss of heart or lung reserve as evidenced by X-ray, electrocardiogram, or other objective findings, so that despite medical treatment breathlessness, pain, or fatigue is produced on slight exertion, such as walking several blocks, using public transportation, or doing small chores.
- (4) Cancer which is inoperable and progressive.
- (5) Damage to the brain or brain abnormality which has resulted in severe loss of judgment, intellect, orientation, or memory.
- (6) Mental diseases (e.g., psychosis or severe psychoneurosis) requiring continued institutionalization or constant supervision of the individual.
- (7) Loss or diminution of vision to the extent that the affected individual has a central visual acuity of no better than 20/200 in the better eye after best correction, or has a limitation in the fields of vision such that the widest diameter of the visual fields subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees.

(8) Permanent and total loss of speech.

(9) Total deafness uncorrectible by a hearing aid.

In any case coming under the provisions of this paragraph, the evidence referred to above must be submitted to the Bureau of the Public Debt, Division of Transactions and Rulings, Parkersburg, WV 26101, for approval before any bonds may be paid. If, after review of the evidence, the Secretary of the Treasury is satisfied that the owner's disability has been established, a letter will be furnished authorizing payment of his Retirement Plan Bonds. This letter must be presented each time any of the owner's bonds are submitted for payment to a Federal Reserve Bank or Branch or to the Bureau of the Public Debt.

(c) *Requests for payment—(1) By owner.* When redemption of any Retirement Plan Bond is desired by the registered owner under paragraph (a) of this section, it should be presented with the request for payment on the back of the bond signed and duly certified, to a Federal Reserve Bank or Branch or to the Bureau of the Public Debt, Securities Transactions Branch, Washington, DC 20226, or Bureau of the Public Debt, Division of Transactions and Rulings, Parkersburg, WV 26101. If payment is requested under paragraph (b) of this section, the letter described therein should accompany the bond.

(2) *By person other than owner.* When redemption of any Retirement Plan Bond is desired by the legal guardian, committee conservator, or similar representative of the owner's estate under paragraph (a) of this section, it should be presented, with the request signed as described below, to a Federal Reserve Bank or Branch or to the Bureau of the Public Debt. If payment is requested under paragraph (b) of this section, the letter described therein should accompany the bond.¹ The request for payment, in either case,

¹In any case in which a legal representative has not been appointed for the estate of a registered owner who has attained the age of 59½ years, or who has become disabled, a person seeking payment of a bond on the owner's behalf should furnish a complete

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should be signed by the representative in his fiduciary capacity before an authorized certifying officer, and must be supported by a certificate or a certified copy of the letters of the appointment from the court making the appointment, under seal, or other proof of qualification if the appointment was not made by a court. Except in the case of corporate fiduciaries, such evidence should state that the appointment is in full force and should be dated not more than one year prior to the presentation of the bond for payment.

(d) *Partial redemption.* A Retirement Plan Bond in a denomination greater than \$50 (face value) which is otherwise eligible for redemption may be redeemed in part, at current redemption value, upon the request of the registered owner (or a person recognized as entitled to act on his behalf), but only in amounts corresponding to authorized denominations. In any case in which partial redemption is desired, before the request for payment is signed, the phrase “to the extent of \$ ____ (face value) and reissue of the remainder” should be appended to the request. Upon partial redemption of the bond, the remainder will be reissued as of the original issue date. No partial redemption of a bond will be made after the death of the owner in whose name it is registered.

[28 FR 405, Jan 16, 1963, as amended at 42 FR 21611, Apr. 28, 1977]

§ 341.9 Payment or redemption after death of owner.

(a) *Order of precedence where owner not survived by beneficiary.* If the registered owner of a Retirement Plan Bond dies before it has been presented and surrendered for payment, and there is no beneficiary shown thereon, or if the designated beneficiary predeceased the owner, the bond shall be paid in the following order of precedence:

(1) To the duly appointed executor or administrator of the estate of the owner, who should sign the request for payment on the back of the bond in his

statement of the circumstances to the Bureau of the Public Debt, Division of Transactions and Rulings, Parkersburg, WV 26101. Appropriate instructions will then be furnished.

representative capacity before an authorized certifying officer, such request to be supported by a court certificate or a certified copy of his letters of appointment, under seal of the court, which should show that the appointment is in full force and effect, and be dated within six months of its presentation;

(2) If no legal representative of the deceased registered owner's estate has been or will be appointed, to the widow or widower of the owner;

(3) If none of the above, to the child or children of the owner and the descendants of deceased children by representation;

(4) If none of the above, to the parents of the owner, or the survivor of them;

(5) In none of the above, to other next-of-kin of the owner, as determined by the laws of the domicile of such owner at the time of his death. In any case coming under the provisions of this paragraph, a duly certified copy of the registered owner's death certificate will ordinarily be required. Proof of death of the beneficiary, if any, will be required where he predeceased the owner. Payment of bonds under paragraph (a)(1) of this section will be made by a Federal Reserve Bank or Branch or by the Bureau of the Public Debt, Securities Transactions Branch, Washington, DC 20226, or Bureau of the Public Debt, Division of Transactions and Rulings, Parkersburg, WV 26101. Payment of bonds under paragraphs (a)(2) to (5) of this section will be made upon receipt of applications on Form PD 3565, together with the bonds and supporting evidence, by the Bureau of the Public Debt.

(b) *Order of precedence where beneficiary survived owner.* If the registered owner of a Retirement Plan Bond dies before it has been presented and surrendered for payment, and the beneficiary shown thereon survived the owner, the bond shall be paid in the following order of precedence:

(1) To the designated beneficiary upon his presentation and surrender of the bond with the request for payment signed and duly certified, such payment to be made to the exclusion of any other person who may have been named beneficiary by the registered